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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,496	10/16/2001	Colin Andrew Low	1509-229	1502

7590 01/13/2005
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EXAMINER

MEKY, MOUSTAFA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/977,496

Applicant(s)

LOW ET AL.

Examiner

Moustafa M Meky

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/17/2002.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. Claims 1-11 are presenting for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Inala (US Pat. No. 6,442,590).
4. As to claim 1, Inala shows in Fig 1, a network information system 9 comprising:
 - an information page server such as server 23 for serving information pages across a network 11 to requesting parties (users) having endpoint systems (29, 31, 33, 35) connected to the network 11, see col 6, lines 14-22, col 7, lines 29-32, col 8, lines 38-43;
 - a service system with a session manager (server 17) for establishing a respective communication session for each of at least some of the information pages and for joining to such session the endpoint systems of parties (users) currently located on the corresponding page (see col 5, lines 45-50, col 6, lines 19-29, col 12, lines 54-65, col 13, lines 64-67, col 15, lines 48-55), each communication session that is established having an associated transport mechanism for allowing the exchange of data, via data transfer channels between the endpoint systems joined to the session (see col 16, lines 1-10);
 - the service system having a session overview subsystem arranged to receive a notification from the session manger 17 upon an endpoint system joining or leaving a session (see col

5, lines 45-50, col 8, lines 52-57, col 9, lines 1-4), the sessions overview subsystem comprising :

- a real-time database 20 for inherently recording, on the basic of the notifications and for each session that is established, the identity of the associated information page (web page) and information about any party (user) whose endpoint system is currently joined to the session, see col 5, lines 62-65, col 8, lines 52-57 (notice that the database 20 is connected and associated with the session manager 17 and the database 20 would inherently record all the notifications that been handled by the session manager 17), col 9, lines 1-4, col 12, lines 65-67, col 13, lines 1-2, col 15, lines 39-44, lines 59-60; and
- a user interface for providing a view of the current page sessions and the related party (user) information to a permitted user, see col 8, lines 65-67, col 9, line 1, lines 21-39, lines 49-61, col 14, lines 17-20, lines 36-40, col 15, lines 45-47.

5. As to claim 2, the user interface provides view of the current page sessions to an endpoint system of the permitted user along with session identity information on a user selected session to enable the permitted user to send a request to the session manager 17 to join the selected session, see col 9, lines 49-61, col 15, lines 45-47.

6. As to claim 3, the user interface includes functionality for enabling the permitted user to select a page session to join and which, in response to the use selecting a session to join, is operative to initiate joining of an endpoint system of the user to the session by sending to the session manger 17, a joining request that identifies the user and the session to be joined, see col 14, lines 17-20, col 15, lines 39-55.

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7. As to claim 4, the user interface comprises functionality for inherently dynamically generating from the real-time database 20 (through the session manager 17) , a web page listing the pages with associated sessions, the corresponding party (user) related information, and a web server such as server 19 (Fig 1, col 7, lines 30-39) for serving the page to the permitted user on request, see col 9, lines 49-61, col 15, lines 39-55.
8. As to claim 5, each of at least some of the joining notifications includes an identifier of the party (user) associated with the joined endpoint system, the subsystem includes a database mechanism for looking attribute data of the party (user) in a database 20 using the party identifier, see col 5, lines 62-65, col 8, lines 52-57, col 12, lines 65-67, col 13, lines 1-2.
9. As to claim 6, each of at least some of the joining notifications includes party attribute data that included in the party-related information stored in the database 20, see col 5, lines 62-65, col 8, lines 52-57, col 12, lines 65-67, col 13, lines 1-2.
10. As to claim 7, a service representatives (agents) with endpoint systems capable of being joined to sessions, see col 10, lines 50-67, col 11, lines 1-3.
11. As to claim 8, the service system creates a service-session entity (within the session manager 17) for joining of endpoint systems to the session by inherently sending connection details of the transport mechanism, see col 16, lines 1-10.
12. As to claim 9, the service- session entity within the session manager 17 comprises a session instance for adding and removing endpoint systems to the session and for recording the endpoint currently joined, etc, see col 5, lines 45-50, col 6, lines 19-29, col 12, lines 54-65, col 13, lines 64-67, col 15, lines 48-55.

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13. As to claim 10, the transport mechanism associated with a session inherently provides multiple channels between the joined system, see col 16, lines 1-10.

14. As to claim 11, the state of connection of an endpoint system to the transport mechanism is signaled to the session-service entity within the session manager 17 by messages to a controller within the session manager 17, see col 5, lines 45-50, col 8, lines 52-57, col 9, lines 1-4, see col 16, lines 1-17.

Therefore, it can be seen from paragraphs 4-14 that Inala anticipates claims 1-11.

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Moustafa M Meky whose telephone number is 571-272-4005.


The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MMM
12/26/2004


MUSTAFA M. MENY
PRIMARY EXAMINER